

Contact: **Myron W. Lee**  
Office: 435.893.4702  
Cellular: 435.691.1836

November 30, 2005  
***For Immediate Release***

## **UDOT Proceeds With EA on Colorado River Bridge**

**MOAB, UTAH** – The Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) is moving forward with an Environmental Assessment on the Moab's Colorado River Bridge as recommended by a feasibility study completed earlier this year.

Construction of a replacement bridge could begin by the end of this decade.

The "Environmental Assessment" phase of the project will complete an environmental process required to permit construction. UDOT plans to dedicate \$14 million for the construction of a replacement bridge.

The Environmental Assessment (EA) will also look at improvements between 400 North in Moab and SR-279 (Potash Road). However, funds are not currently identified to complete improvements beyond the bridge.

Stakeholders have already provided valuable input to the project team as part of the Colorado River Bridge Crossing Study completed earlier this year. The earlier study concluded that a bridge replacement project must:

- Provide a bridge over the Colorado River that meets current structural design standards and sufficiency rating requirements
- Improve safety
- Meet existing and projected travel demands to the year 2030
- Provide continuity between four-lane sections of road on either end of the bridge

The new study will refine alternatives and assess impacts in greater detail. UDOT and the Federal Highway Administration expect completion of the environmental phase in 2007. Citizens are encouraged to participate in the EA process throughout the next 12-18 months to keep the study team apprised of their concerns.

A workshop to review alternatives is planned in early 2006, and a Public Hearing to review the findings of the EA is anticipated in early 2007. Stakeholders can obtain current project information and make comments at any time by accessing the project website at [www.udot.utah.gov/coloradoriverbridge/](http://www.udot.utah.gov/coloradoriverbridge/)

Comments may also be emailed to [US191ColoradoRiver@mbakercorp.com](mailto:US191ColoradoRiver@mbakercorp.com) or phoned into Tiffany Carlson at Michael Baker Jr., Inc. (801) 352-5974.

-UDOT-